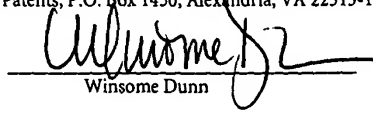


Certification of Mailing Under 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date August 25, 2003, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing Label Number Express Mail No.: EV 338303052US, addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Winsome Dunn

DOCKET NO. 21371-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Christine Markert-Hahn
Dirk Block

EXAMINER: Unassigned

SERIAL NO.: Unassigned

ART UNIT: Unassigned

FILED: Even date herewith

FOR: **IMPROVED METHOD OF BISULFITE
TREATMENT**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir

Prior to Examination and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.115, please consider and enter the following amendment to the specification.

In The Specification:

On page 1, immediately beneath the Title, please insert the following:

-- Background of the Invention

This application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of EP Application 02019097.1, filed August 29, 2002 and EP Application 02028114.3, filed December 18, 2002, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference. --

REMARKS

Applicants wish to provide the Examiner with a substituted specification. Amendments made to the specification are made to claim priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 to a foreign application, and also to place the specification in the proper format according to U.S. practice

and are fully supported by the application as filed herewith. No new matter is added by these amendments. Accordingly, entry of the substituted specification is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 22 2003


Charles M. Doyle (Reg. No. 39,175)